



## AFLCMC DETACHMENT 12

# Kessel Run Road to Agile Acquisitions - Middle Tier & Software Acq Pathway

Hannah Hunt

**KESSEL RUN**

# Agenda

Kessel Run Overview

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Middle Tier Acquisition Overview

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Kessel Run's Implementation of  
Middle Tier Acquisition

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Movements Toward Software  
Acquisition Pathway

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# 1970s



# 1990s

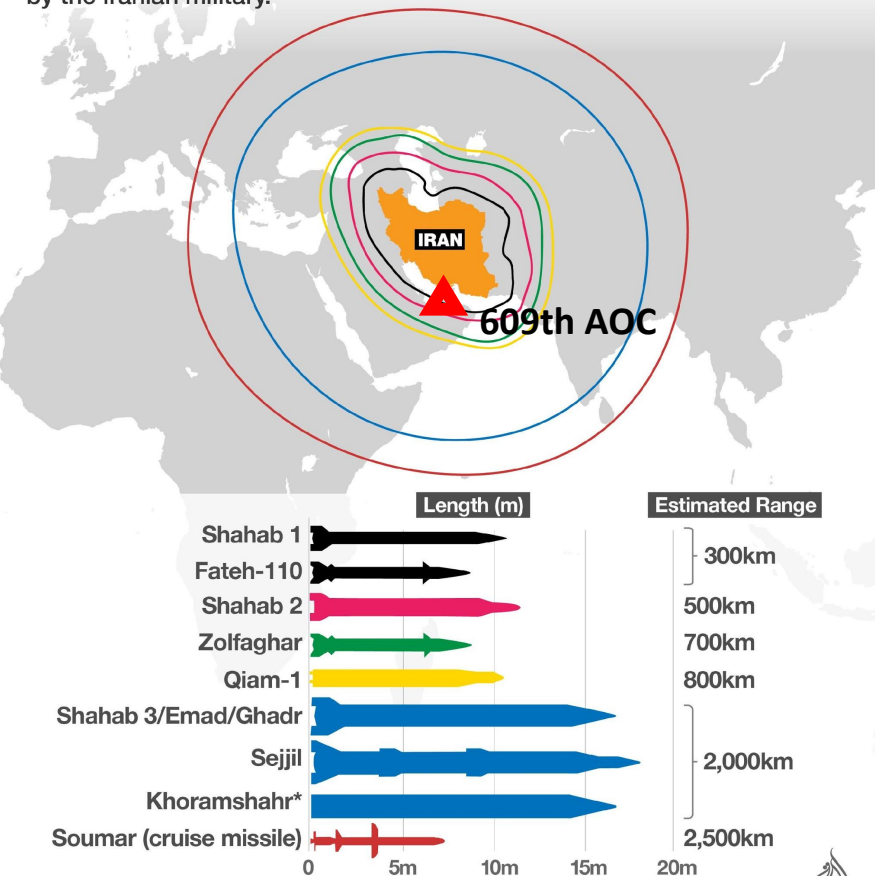


# Now



# Iran's ballistic missiles

Iran has been working on its ballistic missile capabilities for the last three decades. These are some of the most prominent missiles used by the Iranian military.



**2015:** Iran Nuclear Deal doesn't cover ICBMs and other missiles

**2017:** Khomeini said it didn't matter and that they don't need a range longer than 2,000km

"A 2,000km range ballistic missile from Iran is not capable of hitting the United States, but can cover much of the Middle East, including several American bases and naval facilities in the region"

**2018:** "Major General Mohammad Ali Jafari told reporters in the capital, Tehran, on Tuesday that the missile range can cover "most of American interest and forces" within the region, even as he underlined the programme's defensive purpose.  
Jafari said the ballistic missile range is based on the limits set by the country's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei.

**2018:** Jafari warned Iran's enemies of the "high costs" of provoking his country."

**2019:** Solemeini killed; Khomeini vows to respond 'against military sites'



The background features a large, faint, light gray graphic of a Kessel Run ship, which is a wedge-shaped vessel with a long, thin tail. The ship is oriented diagonally from the top left towards the bottom right. The text is overlaid on this background.

## KESSEL RUN VISION

Deliver combat **capability** that can  
**sense & respond** to **conflict** in any  
domain, any time, anywhere.

# But what really *is* Kessel Run?

**Kessel Run** is a hybrid **acquisition & operations** detachment charged with delivering and executing the Dynamic Tasking Order (DTO) **in any domain, anytime and anywhere** relying on an **all-domain common platform** with 'Day 2' Ops capabilities

We *are* the **weapon system** and are **part of the fight** by delivering combat capability to warfighters every day.



# Three Core Product Lines

## OpsC2



Plan the Dynamic Tasking Order (DTO)  
during Agile Combat Employment (ACE)

## WingC2



Inform & Execute the Dynamic  
Tasking Order (DTO) during Agile  
Combat Employment (ACE)

## All Domain Common Platform



Provide globally available survivable  
computing capabilities  
for OpsC2 and WingC2

# Agile Acquisitions - The Role of Middle Tier

Kessel Run inserts **agility** into  
the traditional waterfall process  
of DoD acquisition



...and part of that is the use of  
**Middle Tier Acquisitions** to  
deliver **value** fast.

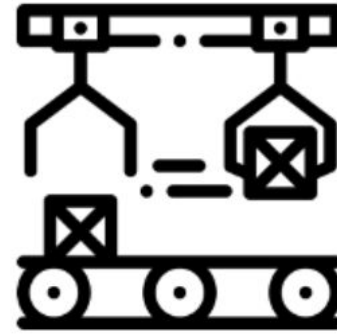


But first, a quick overview



# What is MTA?

- Utilized for capabilities that have a level of maturity to allow them to be rapidly prototyped or fielded within five years
- **Rapid prototyping** - field innovative prototypes that can be demonstrated in an operational environment within five years
- **Rapid fielding** - Field proven technologies with minimum development Initiate production within six months



Field proven technologies with  
**minimal development.**

Initiate production within **6 months**  
and complete fielding within **5 years**  
from MTA Program Start.



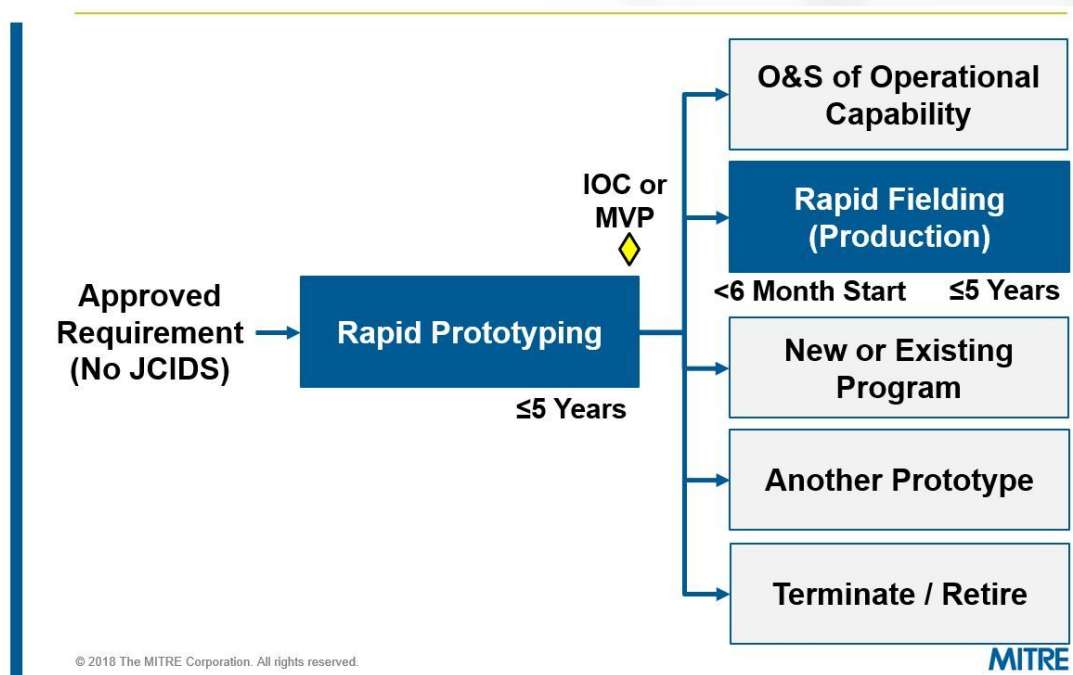
# Why MTA?

- **Exempt** from Major Defense Acquisition Program (MDAP) (i.e. ACAT designation)
  - Provides relief from statutory documentation and set milestones that requires significant admin burden
- **Exempt** from formal Joint Capabilities Integration and Development System (JCIDS) Requirements Process
- Allows us to deliver warfighter capability **faster** and more **securely**



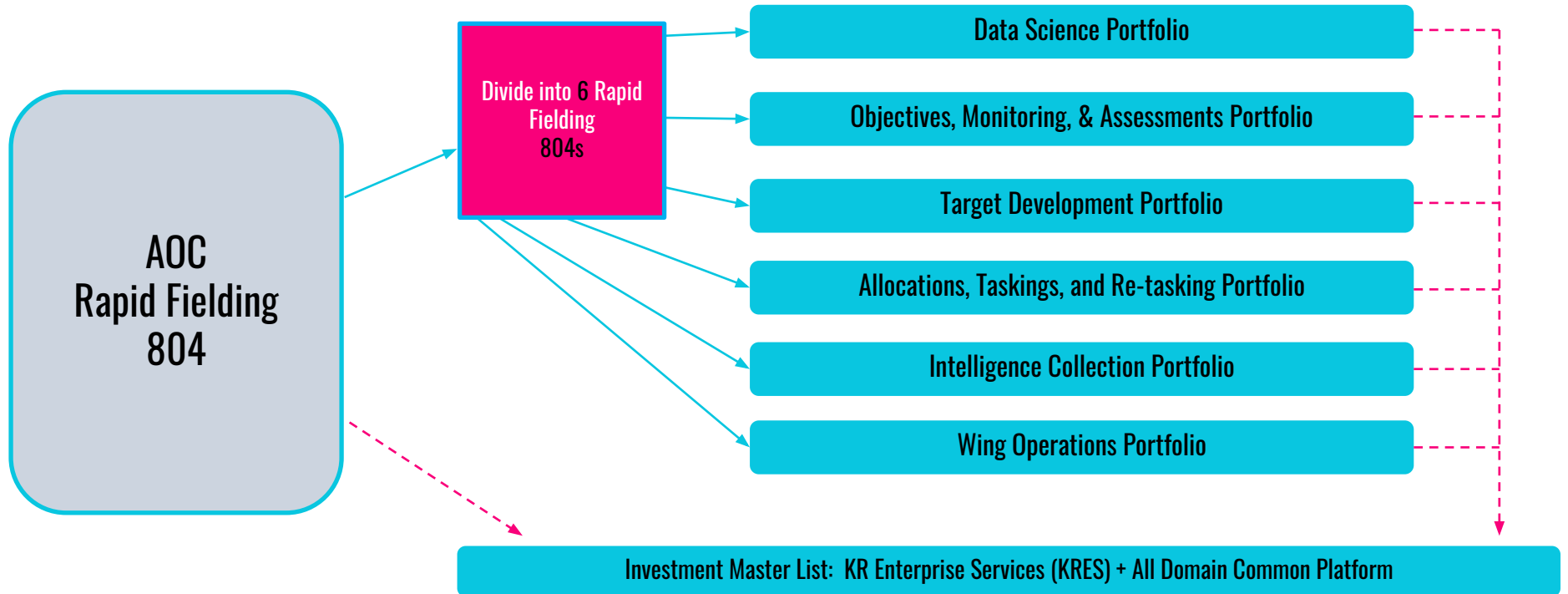


...we can use this.



# Kessel Run Implementation

# KR MTA Acquisition Strategy



# Kessel Run MTAs: Document

## Tailoring

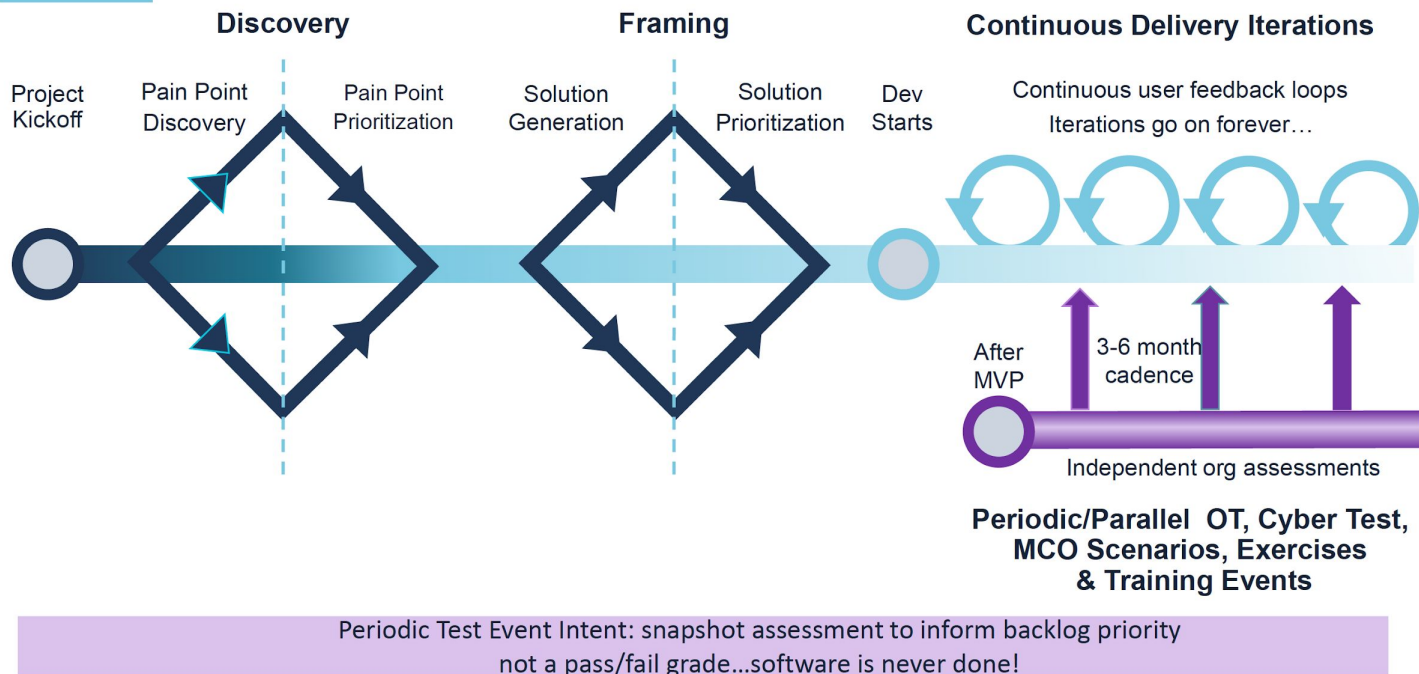
In accordance with AFGM2018-63-146-01 "Air Force Guidance for Rapid Acquisition Activities," Kessel Run tailored the following documentation while maintaining accountability and transparency to the Air Force acquisition community:

- Tailored Integrated Master Schedule
- Funding Schedule
- Tailored Acquisition Strategy/Plan
- Tailored Concept Analyses
- Clinger-Cohen Act Compliance
- Risk Management Framework
- Cybersecurity Strategy
- Test Planning
- Transition Planning of Products
- Systems Engineering

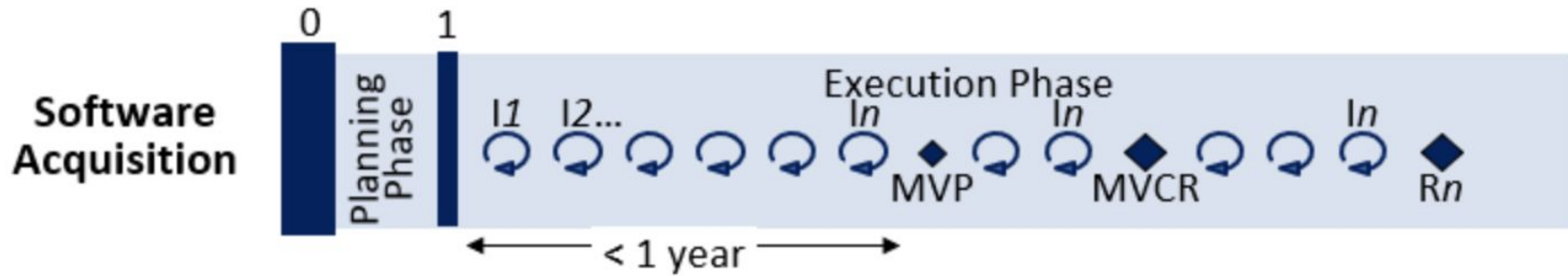
The MTA plans served as the documentation to meet those tailored requirements.

# Tailored Life Cycle Sustainment Plan

## Notional Continuous Delivery + Parallel Test Construct



...which looks a lot like this.



# Shift to Software Acquisition Pathway

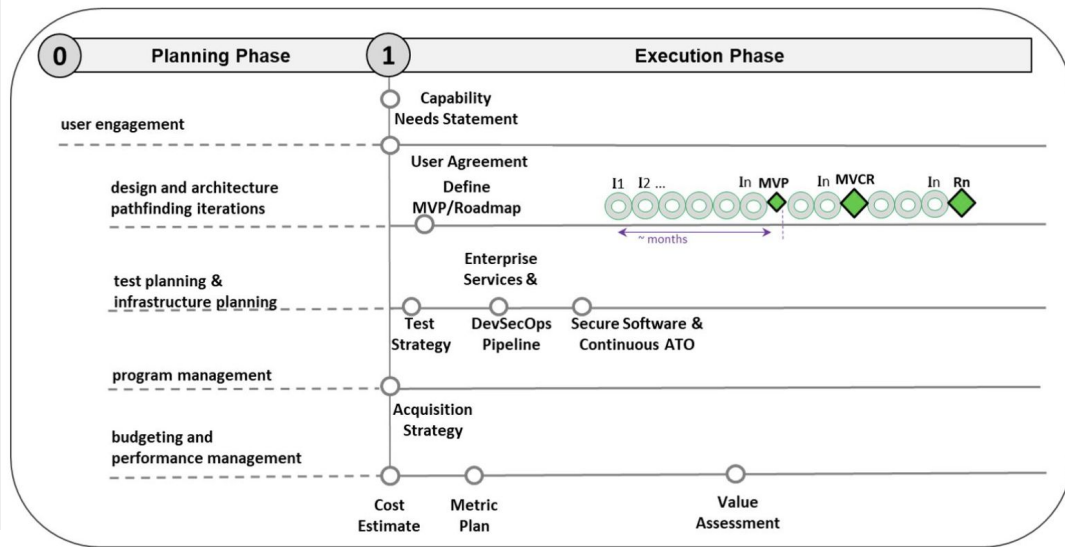
# Why the shift?

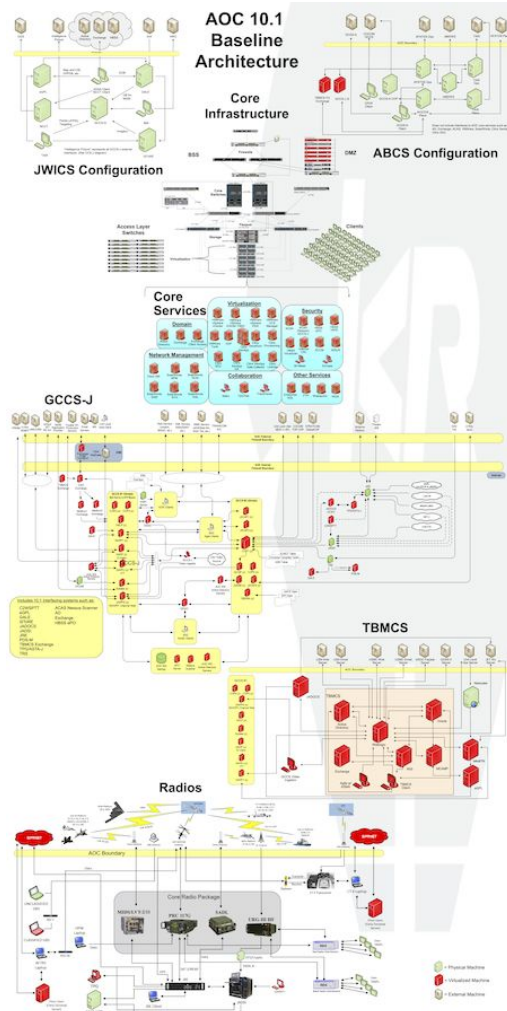
The Software Acq Pathway didn't exist at the time!

Programs/Portfolios shift rapidly - MTA structure too rigid

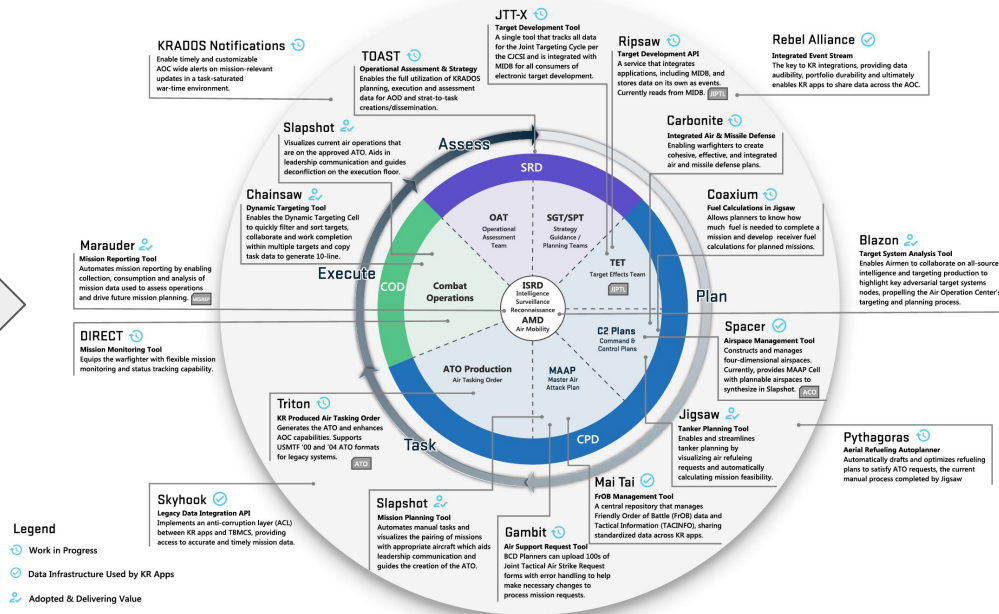
We are in year three of MTA and MTA is maximum five years

Software Acq Pathway better in line with KR business model and needs





# From Big Bang to Agile



- Capability increments in months not years
- User-oriented solutions with loose coupling vs tightly coupled and rigid system of systems

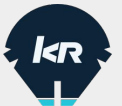
**CODE. DEPLOY. WIN.**

**DELIVERING WAR-WINNING CAPABILITIES THAT AIRMEN LOVE**

“ The organization [KR]... is revolutionizing the way we command and control airpower. You've got a great team, and I may be their biggest fan. ”

Col Frederick “Trey” Coleman  
**609th AOC CC**

**CODE. DEPLOY. WIN.**



Thanks.

